



# The Clever Cat and the Marquis of Carabas

Once upon a time, there were three brothers who received their father's inheritance. The oldest brother got the mill, the second brother received an ass, and the youngest brother, well, he got only a cat. The youngest brother felt really sad about this. He thought, "My brothers can earn a good living, but what can I do with just a cat?"

But this was no ordinary cat! The clever cat said to his young master, "Don't worry, just get me a pair of boots and a bag, and you'll see how helpful I can be!"

Though the young man didn't fully believe the cat, he remembered how smart his cat was, always coming up with clever ways to catch mice. So, he decided to give it a try.

Once the cat had his boots and bag, he set off on an adventure. First, he caught a rabbit and gifted it to the king, saying it was from the Marquis of Carabas, a fancy title he made up for his master. The king was delighted!

The clever cat continued bringing gifts to the king, each time impressing him more and more. Then, knowing the king and his beautiful daughter were going out, the cat hatched a brilliant plan. He told his master to take a bath in the river, and while he was bathing, the cat hid his clothes.

When the king's carriage passed by, the cat shouted for help, saying his master, the Marquis of Carabas, was drowning. The king sent his guards to help, and the cat explained that thieves had stolen his master's clothes. The kind king immediately gave the young man a splendid outfit.

The king's daughter found the young man very charming, and he was invited to join them in their carriage. The cat, always thinking ahead, convinced the local farmers and reapers to say that all the lands belonged to the Marquis of Carabas whenever the king asked.

Their journey led them to a magnificent castle owned by a fearsome Ogre. The clever cat visited the Ogre and tricked him into turning into a mouse, which the cat quickly gobbled up.

As the king arrived at the castle, the cat welcomed him, claiming the castle belonged to his master, the Marquis of Carabas. The king was so impressed by the young man's wealth and charm, and the beautiful princess had already fallen in love with him. The young man soon married the princess and became part of the royal family.

As for the cat, he was rewarded with a grand life and never had to chase mice again, except for fun.

Moral of the Story:

Even if you start with little, clever thinking and hard work can lead to great things. And sometimes, it's not just what you have, but how you use it that counts.

Another Lesson:

This story also shows that appearances can have a big impact, and with the right presentation, even a miller's son can win the heart of a princess.